AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A communication device for performing transmission and reception of a content with another communication device having a setting unit that sets a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmitting to a predetermined value, the communication device comprising:

an acquiring unit operable to acquire a ~~communication distance indicating how far the communication device is from another communication device in data communication~~ time-to-live of an IP packet received from the other communication device;

a ~~distance~~ judging unit operable to judge whether the acquired ~~communication distance~~ time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~a~~ the predetermined value; and

a communication unit operable~~, when judged in the affirmative,~~ to conduct content transmission/reception with the other communication device only when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the predetermined value.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The communication device of claim ~~4~~ 1, further comprising:

a key sharing unit operable to share key information with the other communication device.

6. (Original) The communication device of claim 5, further comprising:

an encryption unit operable, using the shared key information, to encrypt contents and decrypt encrypted contents, wherein

the communication unit transmits/receives encrypted contents.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended)  A content distribution system ~~in which a content is transmitted from a transmission device to a reception device, the transmission device including:~~for performing transmission and reception of a  content with a first communication device and a second communication device,

the first communication device including:

a setting unit operable to set a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a predetermined value, and

the second communication device including:

an acquiring unit operable to acquire ~~a communication distance indicating how far the communication device is from another communication device in data communication~~ the time-to-live of the  IP  packet  received  from  the  second communication device;

a ~~distance~~ judging  unit  operable  to  judge  whether  the  acquired ~~communication distance~~ time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~a~~the predetermined value; and

a ~~transmission~~ communication unit  operable, ~~when  judged  in  the affirmative,  to  transmit  the  content  to  the  reception  device~~ to conduct content

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transmission/reception with the first communication apparatus only when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the predetermined value., and

~~the reception device operable to receive the content transmitted by the transmission device.~~

15.  (Currently Amended)  A content distribution method ~~used by a communication device~~ for performing transmission and reception of a content with a first communication device and a second communication device, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

in the first communication device

setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a predetermined value, and

in the second communication device

acquiring ~~a communication distance indicating how far the communication device is from another communication device in data communication~~ the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the second communication device;

judging whether the acquired ~~communication distance~~ time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~a~~ the predetermined value; and

conducting content transmission/reception with the ~~other~~ first communication device only when ~~judged in the affirmative~~ said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the predetermined value.

16.  (Currently Amended)  A computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon a content distribution computer program ~~used by a communication device,~~ ~~comprising the steps of:~~ for causing:

a first communication device to perform

setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to a second communication device to a predetermined value, and

the second communication device to perform

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acquiring ~~a communication distance indicating how far the communication device is from another communication device in data communication~~ the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the second communication device;

judging whether the acquired ~~communication distance~~ time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~a~~ the predetermined value; and

conducting content transmission/reception with the ~~other~~ first communication device only when ~~judged in the affirmative.~~ said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the predetermined value.

17. (Currently Amended) An LSI for executing a content distribution computer program ~~used by a communication device~~ for performing transmission and reception of a content with a first communication device and a second communication device, the program comprising ~~the steps of~~:

_____ in the first communication device

_____ setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a predetermined value, and

_____ in the second communication device

acquiring ~~a communication distance indicating how far the communication device is from another communication device in data communication~~ the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the second communication device;

judging whether the acquired ~~communication distance~~ time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~a~~ the predetermined value; and

conducting content transmission/reception with the ~~other~~ first communication device only when ~~judged in the affirmative.~~ said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the predetermined value.

18. (New) The communication device of claim 1, further comprising:

an invalidation information acquiring unit operable to acquire, via a network, invalidation information identifying an invalidated communication device; and

a storage unit operable to store the invalidation information acquired by the invalidation information acquiring unit.

19. (New) The communication device of claim 18, further comprising:

a comparison unit operable to compare the acquired invalidation information and the invalidation information stored by the storage unit; and

an updating unit operable, when the acquired invalidation information and the invalidation information stored by the storage unit do not match, to replace the stored invalidation information with the acquired invalidation information.

20. (New) The communication device of claim 6, wherein

the encryption unit performs encryption based on the Advance Encryption Standard.